



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/805,072	03/19/2004	Masahiro Maeda	10873.935USC1	7915
23552	7590	11/02/2004	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			GLENN, KIMBERLY E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/805,072

Applicant(s)

MAEDA ET AL.

Examiner

Kimberly E Glenn

Art Unit

2817

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/10/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 23-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 24-29 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seino et al US Patent 4,639,694 (of record).

Seino et al disclose in figure 2(a) a power distribution circuit comprising a dielectric substrate 1, distributed constant lines 2-7, resistances 9 and 10, connecting lines 11-12, an input terminal 16, and output terminals 17-20 and a metallic thin wire 23 connecting resistance 9 and 10. The distributed constant lines 2-7 and the connecting lines 11, 12 are formed of as microstrip on the dielectric substrate 1, and the resistances 9 and 10 are also formed on the dielectric substrate 1. The resistances are formed using vapor deposition therefore the resistances are thin film resistors. The electrical length of each of the distributed constant lines 2-7 is selected to be a quarter wavelength. Each output is connected to an amplifier (not shown). The thin metallic wire will inherently comprise an inductive or reactive characteristic and therefore when combined with the resistances would be considered a distributed constant. See figure 2(a) and column 1 lines 7 through column 2; line 29.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 24-29 are allowed.

Art Unit: 2817


The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: With regards to the claim 24, the prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a first thin film resistor connected electrically between the first and third transmission line and a second thin film resistor connected between the second and third transmission line. With regards to the claim 25, the prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a second thin film resistor connected electrically between the second and third transmission line and a third thin film resistor connected between the third and fourth transmission line. With regards to the claim 26, the prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a third thin film resistor connected electrically between the second and third transmission line and a fourth thin film resistor connected between the third and fourth transmission line. With regards to the claim 27, the prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a third thin film resistor connected electrically between the second and third transmission line and a fourth thin film resistor connected between the third and second transmission line. With regards to claim 28, the prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a first thin film resistor connected between the first and second transmission lines, a second thin film resistor connected between the third and fourth transmission line and a third thin film resistor connected between the first input terminal and the second input terminal or between the first output terminal and the second output terminals. With regards to the claim 29, the prior art of record does not disclose or fairly teach a third thin film resistor connected electrically between the second and fifth transmission line and a fourth thin film resistor connected between the third and fifth transmission line.

Art Unit: 2817

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly E Glenn whose telephone number is (571)-272-1761. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on (571)-272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kimberly E Glenn
Examiner
Art Unit 2817

keg

ARNOLD KINKEAD
PRIMARY EXAMINER